

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

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**SUBJECT** Opinions and Activities of the  
Foreign Ministry

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. In a meeting of the Kleine Kommission of the Foreign Ministry in East Berlin on 11 June, the following points were brought out:
  - a. Korea is considered by the Kleine Kommission to be an experimental proving ground for Soviet weapons. The campaign is essential for the continued success of the "peace-loving nations". Ambassador Johannes König reports that the Peiping government is beginning to complain at having to bear the brunt of the war for the sake of this experiment, but so far continues to accept the necessity of the fight.
  - b. The members of the Kleine Kommission believe that there will be no foreign ministers' conference, since they are of the opinion that the western bloc will not permit the Atlantic Pact to be discussed, while the Russians will be unwilling to hold the conference without a discussion of this item. The Russians will also be unwilling to discuss the Cominform.
  - c. The disappearance of the two high-ranking British Foreign Office members was discussed from the point of view that their knowledge will be of essential usefulness to the Russians. The whole discussion was based on the premise that the disappearance was an outright defection. Foreign Minister Georg Dertinger described the defection as one of the most important incidents in recent years.
2. Ambassador V.S. Semenov has returned to Berlin. He recently visited Dertinger in company with Ambassador G.M. Pushkin.
3. The Foreign Ministry has instructed all legations and embassies of the German Democratic Republic to hold weekly press conferences, at which they are to emphasize the increasing danger of war caused by remilitarization in West Germany.
4. Switzerland has made an unofficial approach to the DDR, through an unidentified Swiss journalist, to discuss the possibility of granting recognition to the DDR. The motive for such recognition, Foreign Ministry circles think, is the anxiety of the Swiss to safeguard their financial and capital interests in East Germany.
5. State Secretary Anton Ackermann is intriguing against Dertinger, It is believed that the SED intends to exchange Dertinger for Ackermann. Dertinger himself thinks

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that the reason for the intrigue is SED displeasure at the popularity of his appearances on behalf of the recent peace referendum.

6. Dr. Gerhard Reintanz is at present preparing a basic paper for the East German cabinet on the reasons for a peace treaty with the Soviet Union by the end of 1951.
  - a. The Allied action in West Germany constitutes, de facto even though not de jure, a separate peace treaty.
  - b. The Federal government is representing itself illegally to the western Allies as the legal government of all Germany. To offset possible dangerous repercussions at a later stage, it is necessary for the DDR to go on record at least as acting for the present territory of the DDR.
  - c. A peace treaty in 1951 was called for in the referendum, and therefore it has to be accomplished.
7. Any political action by the DDR has been held in abeyance during the last few weeks, pending the outcome of the French elections.
8. The foreign service of the DDR is having trouble in personnel matters. Jonny Lohr was recalled from Bucharest in February and has not yet been replaced; similarly there has been no replacement for Friedrich Wolff in Warsaw, although his resignation has taken effect. Stefan Heymann, who replaced Erich Kops as minister in Budapest, is believed to be scheduled for removal, since Rudolf Helmer inspected the Budapest legation early in June 1951 and reported that Heymann would have to be replaced. Meanwhile, Albania is anxious to exchange diplomatic missions with East Germany. The DDR government is unable to find trustworthy representatives of enough stature for these positions.

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